

high in academic favour. Stanhope Forbes has made great strides both as a "subject" and portrait painter, and he is known to be a good speaker besides being universally liked. And Orchardson—why not Orchardson?

E. WYLY GRIER.

On Jan. 21st an exhibition was opened at the Chicago Art Institute—to last two months—of the entire collections of oil paintings, water-colours, drawings and studies, pen and ink sketches, etchings and engravings of Gustave Doré as well as the famous Doré gallery which was exhibited in London for over twenty-one years. Amongst the best known oil paintings in the collection are the following: "Paola d' Francesca di Rimino," one of his greatest works and which first brought him into notice; "Christ leaving the Prætorium;" "Christ's entry into Jerusalem;" "Moses before Pharaoh;" "The Dream of Pilate's Wife;" "Ecce Homo;" "The Ascension;" "The Neophyte" and its companion picture "Day Dream;" "Christian Martyrs," during the reign of Diocletian, Rome 303 A.D.; "The Vale of Tears," his last painting in 1883; "Massacre of the Innocents." In "Contemporary Art in Europe" S. W. G. Bengamin says of Doré: "To criticise his paintings, to dissect them until nothing is left, to show that the drawing is often defective, the colouring often unnatural would be an easy task. But it is not so easy to explain away the profound impression they produce or the conviction they give us that here is a mind standing alone in Paris—a mind Teutonic rather than French in its character—looking not so much on the surface of things as at what is hidden underneath, studying the moral of life, a French Albrecht Dürer to whom existence is less a comedy than a tragedy."

In the January number of Massey's Magazine Mr. G. A. Reid contributes an interesting article entitled "The Evolution of Two of My Pictures," with illustrations by Mr. Challoner.

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BOOKS.

The Victorious Life: Post Conference Addresses. By Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe. (New York: The Baker and Taylor Co.)—It is hardly fair to judge of a public teacher's utterances when they no longer strike the ear, but come to us through the reporter, and especially, when the speaker has not corrected the reporter's notes. Still we doubt not that many readers will be edified by these addresses, which are earnest and devout. There is not a great deal that is new in them, except perhaps some novelties of expression, as, for example, when the author speaks of the Holy Ghost as "the universal income of the Church"—a form of speech not quite customary. At the same time his distinctions of the coming and work of the Holy Spirit are excellent; although here, again, we do not see the use of "endowment" and "endowment." Mr. Webb-Peploe did not correct the proofs of the volume, so we must not put to his account the "Pretorists" as a school of interpreters of the Apoclyypse.

Washington Irving's Tales of a Traveller: With an introduction by Brander Matthews and notes by George Rice Carpenter. Longman's English Classics. (London and New York, Longman, Green and Co.)—We have here Washington Irving's "Tales of a Traveller" issued as the first of a series to be known as Longman's English Classics. The introduction is excellent and the notes are full and complete, but we venture to think that if the "Suggestions to Teachers" are carried out the object of the series, viz., "To interest young students in certain books as literature and to draw attention to the main subjects of importance in them" will not be obtained. The student who is taught on this system will acquire a great deal of information but with few exceptions it will be at the expense of a permanent distaste for the works of the author he is studying. We are sorry that Washington Irving should have been selected for this treatment. We read him ourselves as a boy and learned to love him, even though we could not understand every single allusion, but we are convinced that if we had had to "get him up" five pages at a time, examining ourselves whether "we knew precisely what the author meant by every word, sentence and paragraph of the passage," if we had had to hunt up in a dictionary or encyclopædia whatever we did not understand, all the charm would have gone.

Cruising among the Caribbees. By Charles Augustus Stoddard. (Price \$1.50. New York: Scribner's. 1895.)—If there is nothing very startling, nor even especially graphic in this narrative of travel, seeking and finding, "summer days in winter months," it is at least a thoroughly well written volume and brings the reader to be acquainted with scenes which are very little known to most of us. The Caribbees here described are the Lesser Antilles, belonging to various European powers, where dwell but a few of the original Caribbees, a very remarkable race. How completely the travellers found summer days in these winter months may be inferred from the fact that, when the thermometer in Santa Cruz fell to 67°, there was an impression that snow was about to fall. The description of the voyage south from the winter of New York to the summer of these West Indian Islands is very interesting. The first island touched was St. Thomas. Thence they proceeded to Santa Cruz, to St. Saba, to the island named St. Christopher, after his own Christian name, by the great explorer and discoverer, irreverently reduced to St. Kits by its English owners—and so on. Many interesting notes of the manners and customs and traditions of the people are given. Perhaps the island that has the most striking historical associations is the only one which remains to the French, Martinique. It was the birthplace of two personages famous in French history, Josephine the Empress, and Madame de Maintenon, in all but name, the Queen of France, and, although herself born a Protestant, probably the author of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Not least numerable among the events here recorded was the decisive naval battle between Admiral Rodney and the Count de Grasse. What does not England owe to her great sailors?

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Recent Fiction.*

ONE of the cleverest novels that has ever been published in Macmillan's Colonial Library is "Mistress Dorothy Marvin," by J. C. Snaith. The story is clean, the action quick and decisive, and the dialogue lively. The scene is laid in England, and the plot centres round two historical episodes, the rebellion of the Duke of Monmouth and the advent of William of Orange. Incidents in the first of these episodes combine to turn the hero into a foot-pad and outlaw, while by the second he is restored to his rightful title of Sir Edward Armstrong. Mistress Marvin herself is a most winsome creation, and if at times she is disposed to act in a manner calculated to offend the modern Mrs. Grundy, yet the loyalty and fearless honesty inherent in her nature must, in the end, gain for her all the reader's sympathies. The story contains many thrilling episodes, and is altogether a very lively and exciting book to read.

Mrs. Clifford's novel, "A Flash of Summer" may be disposed of in short order, even though the book itself takes some time to read. Judging from the title one might expect a good deal of brightness in the story, but the title is sadly misleading, as the "flash" is of brief duration and gloom is the predominating characteristic. The writer displays some artistic power, but several very inartistic passages more than neutralize this, and the work is, on the whole, very unevenly balanced. We cannot understand how a woman with the character displayed by the heroine could ever bring herself to end her sufferings by suicide.

The next book on our list is a typical wild-west story with but one element missing—the red man. Cow-boys, miners, sheriffs, and gamblers are to be found in abundance. Exciting duels, thrilling escapes, and attempts at lynchings are introduced from time to time into the three hundred and

- * "Mistress Dorothy Marvin." By J. C. Snaith. New York: Macmillan & Co. (Colonial Library.) Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
 "A Flash of Summer." By Mrs. W. K. Clifford. London: Methuen & Co. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
 "Wild Rose." By Francis Francis. New York: Macmillan & Co. (Colonial Library.) Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
 "The Unclassed." By George Gissing. London: Geo. Bell & Sons. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
 "Sleeping Fires." by George Gissing. London T. Fisher Unwin. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
 "Galloping Dick." By H. B. Marriott Watson. Chicago: Stone & Kimball.
 "Prisoners of Silence" By Mary Angela Dickens. New York: Macmillan & Co. (Colonial Library.) Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.